

VZCZCXRO3457

OO RUEHAG RUEHBC RUEHDE RUEHDIR RUEHKUK RUEHLH RUEHPW RUEHROV
DE RUEHRH #1196 2181003
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
O 051003Z AUG 08
FM AMEMBASSY RIYADH
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8913
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUCNIRA/IRAN COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUCNISL/ISLAMIC COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE 5318
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 0779
RUEHJI/AMCONSUL JEDDAH IMMEDIATE 9661
RUEHRH/CHUSMTM RIYADH SA IMMEDIATE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEKDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RHMFISS/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE 0089
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE IMMEDIATE
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T RIYADH 001196

NOFORN
SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO NEA/ELA EMILLER AND SNEWHOUSE,
NEA/RA MADLER AND NEA/ARP WROEBUCK

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/03/2018

TAGS: [EUN](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [SA](#) [SY](#)

SUBJECT: FRENCH DCM ON RELATIONS WITH SYRIA

REF: A. SECSTATE 78880

[1](#)B. RIYADH 1155

Classified By: Charge' d'Affaires Michael Gfoeller
for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

[1](#)1. (S/NF) SUMMARY. The French DCM in Riyadh commented to us
that GOF will be wary in its engagement with Syria. END
SUMMARY.

[1](#)2. (S/NF) In a meeting between Pol Counselor and French DCM
in Riyadh Emmanuel Bonne on August 2 to discuss Kosovo
(Septel), Bonne raised the issues of Syria and Lebanon.
Bonne volunteered, without any particular reference, that the
Government of France, as well as fellow EU member states,
would be cautious in their dealings with Syria. He added
that France "had historical experience" with the Syrians and
recognized they can be duplicitous.

[1](#)3. (S/NF) COMMENT. It appears our demarche to the SAG
(Reftels) regarding European caution with Syria was acted
upon by our Saudi interlocutors and passed on to their
European counterparts. END COMMENT.
GFOELLER